

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HEW-02 OES-03 L-03 /019 W

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R 041943Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2568

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TBIO, US, AR

SUBJECT: U.S.-ARGENTINA MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR COLLABORATION
IN HEALTH SCIENCE

REF: (A) STATE 153033; (B) DRAFT MOU POUCHED 6/27/75 BY ARA/APU;
(C) DRAFT MOU SPANISH TEXT POUCHED 6/30/75 BY ARA/APU

DEPT PASS DHEW

1. EMBASSY HAD NOT PRESSED THIS AGREEMENT PENDING SETTLING-IN
OF NEW SOCIAL WELFARE MINISTER AND PUBLIC HEALTH SECRETARY.
S&T COUNSELOR CALLED RECENTLY ON DR. RAUL LEON, HOWEVER, AND
LEARNED THAT LEON EXPECTS IT TO MOVE FORWARD DESPITE PERSONNEL
CHANGES.

2. LEON WISHES MAKE A FEW MINOR CHANGES IN THE DRAFTS (REFS B
AND C). IN THE ENGLISH TEXT, IN ARTICLE III, PARA 3, HE WISHES
3RD SENTENCE TO BEGIN "THESE TWO UNITS WILL PROMOTE, FOSTER,
AND COORDINATE THE DEVELOPMENT..." IN THE SPANISH TEXT, HE
SUGGESTS THAT THE TRANSLATION FOR DHEW IN THE HEADING AND
WHEREVER ELSE IT APPEARS (ARTICLE III, PARA. 1 AND AT THE FINAL
SIGNATURE LINE) BE REVISED TO "EL DEPARTAMENTO DE SALUD,
EDUCACION Y BIENESTAR". IN ARTICLE III, PARA. 1, IN THE
NEXT TO LAST SENTENCE, HE WISHES CHANGE "DROGAS" TO
"MEDICAMENTOS". IN ARTICLE III, PARA 3, 3RD SENTENCE,
BEGIN "ESTAS DOS UNIDADES PROMOVERAN, ESTIMULARAN Y
COORDINARAN EL DESARROLLO..."

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3. COMMENT: THE ABOVE CHANGES ARE, IN OUR VIEW, PRIMARILY

EDITORIAL AND WE URGE DEPT. AND DHEW ACCEPTANCE. "DROGAS" HERE GENERALLY MEANS NARCOTICS, WHILE "MEDICAMENTOS" MORE CLOSELY DESCRIBES MEDICINAL DRUGS IN THE U.S. CONTEXT. THE ADDITION OF "COORDINATE" TO THE DESCRIPTION OF OFFICE RESPONSIBILITIES ON THE TWO SIDES REFLECTS, AS DEPT AND DHEW WILL RECALL, LEON'S OWN INTEREST IN A STRENGTHENED ROLE FOR HIS OFFICE OVER ARGENTINE SCIENTISTS; THE CHANGE APPEARS MINOR, HOWEVER, SINCE EACH OFFICE IS ALREADY CHARACTERIZED IN THE 1ST SENTENCE OF III.3 AS A "COORDINATING POINT".

4. WHILE LEON NOT RPT NOT OBJECTING TO A SIGNING IN BUENOS AIRES, HE RAISED POSSIBILITY TO SIGNING IN WASHINGTON AS HEALTH SECRETARY FLORENCIO CASAVILLA AND LEON EXPECT TO ATTEND PAHO DIRECTIVE COUNCIL MEETING IN WASHINGTON SEPT. 28-OCT. 2.

5. LEON STILL NEEDS FINAL APPROVAL OF CASAVILLA AND SAYS HE WILL ALSO TOUCH BASE WITH FONOFF TREATY DIVISION, BUT NEITHER EXPECTED TO PRESENT PROBLEMS. HE ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT TRYING GET SOME FUNDS FOR THIS PROGRAM INTO 1976 GOA BUDGET, CURRENTLY IN PREPARATION.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: APPROVAL AND/OR COMMENTS ON CHANGES PROPOSED BY LEON AND INDICATION OF INTEREST IN WASHINGTON SIGNING DURING PAHO MEETING TIME FRAME.
HILL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION, HEALTH
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BUENOS05951
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750306-0877
From: BUENOS AIRES
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750981/aaaactrn.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 153033
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 SEP 2003 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <08 DEC 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: U.S.-ARGENTINA MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR COLLABORATION IN HEALTH SCIENCE
TAGS: TBIO, US, AR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006